

Draft List of Action Items

Parks

- Periodically update the inventory of public properties suitable for multiple uses, including passive recreational uses and linear parks.
- Execute joint facility use agreements with other elected boards, i.e. Board of Education.
- Implement a web based technology to allow the public to check availability of and reserve space in recreational facilities, as well as sign-up for various programs electronically.
- Prepare grant applications and research other program funding mechanisms to assist with land purchase, facility development, and renovation of existing recreational facilities.
- Update the existing Arts Division 2006 long-range master plan, when necessary.
- Implement the Arts Division 2006 long-range master plan and the 2000 Parks and Recreation System master plan.
- Evaluate the need for and develop new facilities to support the development of creative recreational programming to meet the changing needs of the community.
- Complete the process of certification and implement standards to sustain Cobb County's status with the National Recreational and Parks Association

Historic Preservation

- Prepare an analysis of connecting proposed Heritage Park and Johnston's River Line Park via flood plain of Nickajack Creek.
- Periodically, update the Cobb County inventory of historic sites and places.
- Compile existing research that investigates the effects of national and local historic designation on the average fair market value of properties in these districts.
- Develop a series of seminars or workshops for the education of the public on historic preservation, the process, the implications, and the opportunities.
- Continue information sharing between the county historic preservation planner and the preservation interests in the cities.
- Use the Cobb County website as a vehicle to educate the public on existing and demolished houses significant to Cobb County's past.
- Update, when necessary, the historic driving tour of Cobb County.
- Continue to expand the Cobb County Historic Marker program as additional monies become available.

Housing

- Periodically update the apartment density study.
- Coordinate efforts between Community Development, Economic Development, and non-profit agencies (Atlanta Neighborhood Development Partnership, Livable Communities Coalition, Cobb Works, etc.) to develop workforce housing policies and opportunities.
- Research policies, recommend code changes, and educate the community in an effort to encourage environmentally sensitive design.
- Develop policies to encourage mixed use developments around proposed regional transit stations.
- Develop new codes and revise existing ordinances to encourage housing design to accommodate the needs of seniors and disabled individuals.
- Encourage the development of “new urbanist” style villages that provide a mixture of housing types for people of various life stages through smart growth code changes.
- Develop new development codes and ordinances to encourage urban styled, higher density residential development in the county’s two regional activity centers in accordance with approved Livable Centers Initiative Master Plans

Environment

- Educate the community on the use and tax benefits of conservation easements to permanently protect sensitive habitat and open space.
- Construct the Natural Resources Educational Center in on land acquired on Johnson Ferry Road.
- Develop natural resource protection policies to meet or exceed the requirements of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.
- Develop a greenspace protection plan using the prioritization model generated for Cobb County through assistance with the Trust for Public Land.
- Implement policies as detailed in the Etowah Regional Habitat Conservation Plan to protect threatened and endangered species.
- Ensure agency coordination in refining 100-year floodplain locations for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- Update the tree protection and preservation plan ordinance to provide better protection for specimen trees and to create greenways

Land Use

- Amend future land use map and related regulatory policies to provide adequate residential and non-residential acreage for 2030 demands.
- Prepare alterations and refinement to the detailed sub area classifications for regional activity centers as a means to foster urban development patterns.
- Reevaluate land use recommendations for areas adjacent to roadways projected to operate with a level of service F by 2030. This can be accomplished by discouraging strip commercial center development, reducing curb cuts, promoting land assemblage, and encouraging inter-parcel access/shared parking agreements.
- Prepare a corridor study for Veterans Memorial Highway.
- Update existing Livable Center Initiative studies, local area master plans, and corridor studies every five-years.
- Prepare a Dallas Highway corridor study.
- Prepare a Sandy Plains Corridor study.
- Implement infill development guidelines to encourage compatible residential development in built-out areas.
- Implement land use policies in coordination with the requirements of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District guidelines.
- Use buffering and screening as a land use mitigation tool.
- Complete the GIS zoning layer.
- Develop a data management program to integrate parcel, permitting, and inspections information.
- Develop and refine regulations to encourage preferred developments on vacant and underutilized parcels.
- Develop regulations and incentives to encourage mixed use developments in appropriate areas.
- Develop targeted policies to protect industrial areas from residential incursions.
- Use Community Development Block Grant funds to assist with housing renovations for those in need.

Water

- Incorporate the findings and implementation items of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Waster Supply and Water Conservation Management Plan into the Comprehensive Plan and make necessary ordinance revisions as necessary.
- Incorporate the findings and implementation items of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District Long-term Wastewater Management Plan and make necessary ordinance revisions as necessary.
- Execute intergovernmental agreements with CCMWA and CCWS customers who are outside of Cobb County to coordinate land use and forecasted demands.
- Prepare draft landscaping requirements which promote water conservation.
- Conduct quarterly meetings with the CCMWA to coordinate development of groundwater resources for potable and non potable uses.

- Amend future land use map and related regulatory policies to provide adequate residential and non-residential acreage for 2030 demands. (This project will also be included in the land use element.)
- Renegotiate and update water service agreements (including shared cost of system improvements) with all municipalities and non county customers, as necessary.
- Execute intergovernmental agreements with all municipalities which establish development guidelines and boundaries with respect to sewer service capacity.
- Prepare an inventory of flood plain acreage for use in possible watershed protection efforts in future treatment facility expansions.
- Prepare a buildout scenario (including projects approved/permitted but not yet built) for the Northwest Plant basin to determine capacity and make land use amendments as necessary.
- Continue to acquire wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas. Prepare and maintain an inventory of flood plain acreage for use in possible watershed protection efforts related to facility expansion efforts in the future.
- Develop agreements with Paulding County for exchange of wastewater treatment service areas which would provide for Paulding flows that drain naturally into Cobb to be treated by Cobb, and Cobb flows that drain naturally into Paulding to be treated by Paulding.
- Work with Fulton to allow diversion of a maximum wastewater flow rate of 3.5 million gallons per day to be diverted from Fulton into Cobb for treatment at the Sutton WRF.
- Develop South Cobb tunnel to address wastewater management needs in southern Cobb County.
- Comply with requirements of sewer system Capacity, Maintenance, Operation, and Management program.
- Complete transition to GIS to replace paper record system.
- Implement rate structure and public education program designed to reduce water demand within the service area.
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- Work with CCMWA to ensure quality of potable water provided to customers.
- Execute intergovernmental agreement with the City of Powder Springs to establish service areas and resolve other service issues.
- Develop and implement a program to prioritize the replacement of aging and substandard water mains.

Transportation

- Execute intergovernmental agreements to develop and analyze future transportation studies.
- Implement road improvements and system upgrades where needed to reduce congestion and improve travel times.
- Construct transportation SPLOST projects, as detailed in the approved referendum, to assist in improving mobility for various transportation modes.

- Review and update Cobb County's Trail Plan.
- Develop a county wide inventory of existing, planned, and programmed pedestrian facilities.
- Continue to schedule and implement upgrades and expansions to the County's bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
- Continue to improve transit facilities and programs in an effort to encourage additional ridership.
- Amend the 2030 Comprehensive Plan when necessary to incorporate findings and recommendations from approved Livable Centers Initiative and other similar transportation/land use Master Plans that will improve the county's multi-modal transportation system.
- Evaluate recommendations from the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority's Bus Rapid Transit/ High Occupancy Vehicle facility improvements along the I-75 corridor for possible amendment to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and 2030 Comprehensive Transportation Plan.
- Amend the 2030 Comprehensive Plan to incorporate findings from the 2005 Transit Planning Study, the 2030 Comprehensive Transportation Plan, and the Senior Adult Transportation Study.

Public Safety

- Continue efforts to improve public safety response time by relocating existing stations and building new stations to better serve the community.
- Recruit, train, and retain public safety staff to ensure that staffing levels keep pace with the areas growing population while ensuring an educated, qualified, and professional force.
- If necessary, amend this short term work program to reflect additional DPS personnel and/or equipment needs or budget requests.
- Construct a new park ranger station in Jim Miller Park in 2007.
- Execute intergovernmental agreements with all the municipalities which coordinate any annexation with adequate public safety delivery.
- Continue to implement communication improvements to better coordinate emergency response in inter-county and intra-county communications.
- Continually update the existing inventory of businesses utilizing hazardous materials.
- Prepare an inventory of necessary capital equipment and vehicles needs to ensure a technologically advanced workforce.
- Expand public safety recruiting efforts to ensure a workforce that adequately reflects the diverse population that exists in Cobb County.
- Expand the Public Safety Training Academy facility to accommodate the additional public safety personnel and additional training facility use.
- Provide public safety education and awareness programs to the community on a regular basis and through a public safety village.

Economic Development

- Prepare an inventory of sites suitable for higher wage, wholesale trade businesses.
- Update and refine county's Economic Development Incentive District Inventory and associated policies.
- Prepare an analysis of how the county's tax structure compares to other metro counties.
- Prepare a marketing strategy to promote the value of the county's two trade schools to economic development.
- Prepare yearly Cobb County Data Report.
- Prepare quarterly and yearly Cobb County Development Report.
- Specific industries that should be targeted based upon existing economic analysis include: Professional, scientific, management, and administrative services; Education, health, and social services; Information; Management of companies and enterprises; and Finance, insurance, and real estate.
- Pursue economic, land use, and transportation changes as defined in the Canton Road Corridor Study, Austell Road Livable Center Initiative, Six Flags Drive Corridor Study, and the Historic Mableton Master Plan as a means of expanding opportunities for areas that have traditionally been underserved.
- Study the possibility to use Tax Allocation Districts, the Redevelopment Overlay District, and/or Trust Funds to expand opportunities to generate additional workforce housing opportunities.
- Research the feasibility of generating a revolving loan fund and develop strategies to maximize CDBG funds to increase capital for small business growth and development.

Library

- Investigate the financing and implementation for a relocation and expansion of the Kennesaw Branch library to accommodate increasing demand.
- Expand the wireless network within existing library facilities to provide public access.
- Implement a self-checkout technology for library patrons.
- Study possibilities for a mobile book service to help provide additional library service to underserved areas.
- Update the existing facility needs study for library system.